

Fannie Lou Hamer, an ideological descendant of the suffrage movement became known as the lady in the civil rights movement that was "sick and tired of being sick and tired."

Shirley Chisholm was the daughter of Caribbean immigrants. She was the first black woman to be elected to the U.S. Congress, (a beneficiary of a voting rights district). And the first black woman candidate for President of the United States. Shirley Chisholm was another descendant of the suffrage movement.

And, Mr. Speaker, thanks to the bravery, perseverance and determination of women such as Sojourner Truth, Fannie Lou Hamer and Shirley Chisholm—women on whose shoulders I stand—Here I Stand—elected in the 110th Congress and representing a voting rights district.

If Americans are honest, the list of individuals that have benefitted from the blood, sweat and tears of the women suffragists would fill volumes.

It is my hope that all suffragists, in particular those of color such as Sojourner Truth and Fannie Lou Hamer whose contributions have historically been sidelined, are recognized for the vital role that they played in giving all women the right to vote in the United States.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisles to join me in voting in the affirmative for this important resolution.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO PLUMBERS
LOCAL UNION 210 APPRENTICE
GRADUATES**

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sincerity and respect that I offer congratulations to several of northwest Indiana's most talented, dedicated, and hardworking individuals. On Friday, June 8, 2007, the Plumbers Local Union 210 will honor the graduating class of 2007 at the Annual Apprentice Graduation Banquet, which will be held at the Patio Banquet Hall in Merrillville, IN.

At this year's banquet, the Plumbers Local Union 210 will recognize and honor the 2007 Apprentice Graduates. The individuals who have completed the apprentice training in 2007 are: Kraig Bailey, Daniel Borowski, Micah Dolatowski, Steven Frederick, Michael Martin, Jr., Timothy Matson, Charles Standifer, Ricky Thomas, and Dustin Werner.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty by its tradesmen. These graduates are all outstanding examples of each. They have mastered their trade and have demonstrated their loyalty to both the union and the community through their hard work and selfless dedication.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these dedicated and hardworking individuals. Along with the other men and women of northwest Indiana's unions, these individuals have committed themselves to making a significant contribution to the growth and development of the economy of the First Congressional District, and I am very proud to represent them in Washington, DC.

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
AUTHORIZATION ACT
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008**

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1684) to authorize appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes:

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, as Congress passes the Homeland Security Department Authorization bill, I must register my deep concerns with the recent operations of one branch of the Homeland Security Department, ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement).

I have very serious reservations with the immigration raids on local communities in my District—both the manner in which they were conducted and their lasting effects on our community. No one, especially our children, should have to live in fear. Nor should they have to live in ignorance of their basic rights in this country.

I have been working closely with local organizations and officials trying to convince ICE to mitigate its heavy-handed tactics and the ways they hurt our local immigrant communities. For instance, since ICE agents have been announcing themselves as "police," local governments are still struggling to regain the trust that they had worked for years to develop in order to combat crime in their jurisdictions. The responses from ICE officials regarding their policies and procedures—and their lack of concern for the ramifications their actions have on children and families in my community—are troubling.

As one example of the way these actions are terrorizing our communities, ICE officials held 7-year-old Kebin Reyes in jail with his father with only bread and water for about 10 hours. Allegedly, ICE officials repeatedly denied his father's requests to find alternative care for Kebin, and the child continues to suffer lasting trauma as a result of his detainment. So egregious was this detention that the American Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit on Kebin's behalf. ICE's apathetic response to

incidents such as these demonstrates their lack of concern for respecting the people in our communities as they carry out their duties.

As Congress reauthorizes Homeland Security, we must strike a careful balance between keeping America safe and respecting the human and civil rights of our local immigrant families. Protecting our borders cannot come at the expense of people's dignity.

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
AUTHORIZATION ACT
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008**

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1684) to authorize appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes:

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Chairman, since the Department of Homeland Security was initially created in 2003, Congress has been unable to pass a single authorization bill for the Department. Today marks an important accomplishment, as the 110th Democratic Congress will pass a bill that finally brings much-needed accountability to DHS.

Along with containing provisions to ensure full funding of security grants that go to our Nation's first responders; and to restore rights to DHS workers, providing them with the same protections received by employees of every other department and agency within our government; I am pleased to see this bill contain a provision requiring stronger oversight of the US-VISIT program.

Although Congress mandated this border management tool 11 years ago, US-VISIT is a completely broken program at DHS because there have been few attempts to develop an exit component and complete this important program.

Instead, DHS appears to be using the funds to create a vast and unauthorized database of personal information about every visitor to this country.

As the representative from one of the most highly diverse districts in America—a district that is both a home and a popular destination for many thousands of people originally from other countries—I am highly concerned about this program. Congress intended to create a border management tool, not a massive list of personal information about law-abiding visitors.

Again, I am pleased to see that this bill imposes greater oversight of this and other ineffective programs at DHS.